Fig. 1: Traditional Link Layer

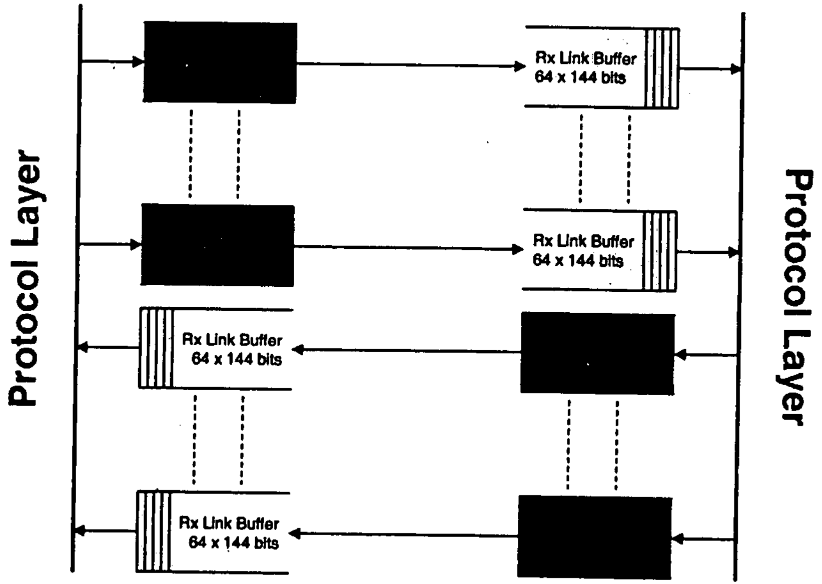
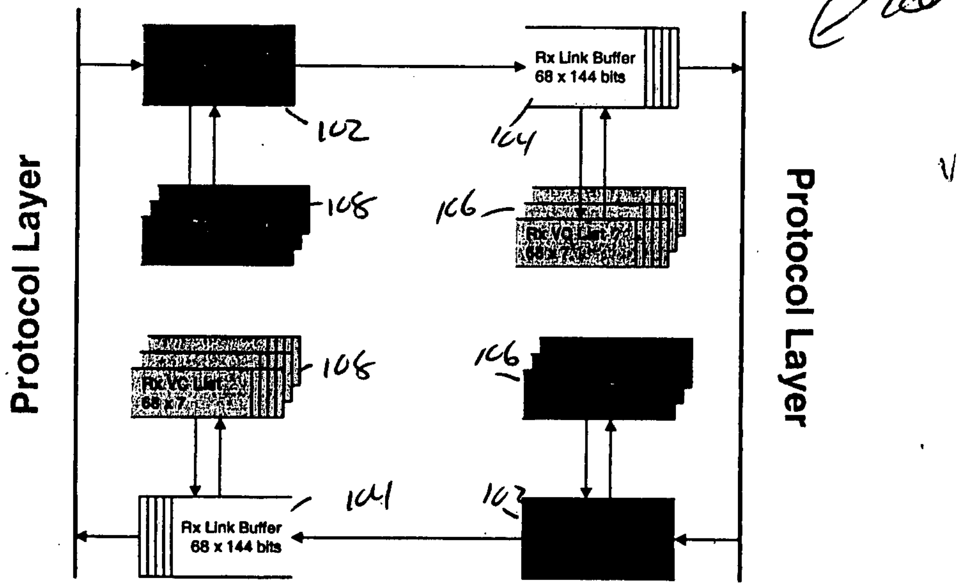


FIG 1
PRIOR
ART

Confidential

Fig. 2: New Link Layer



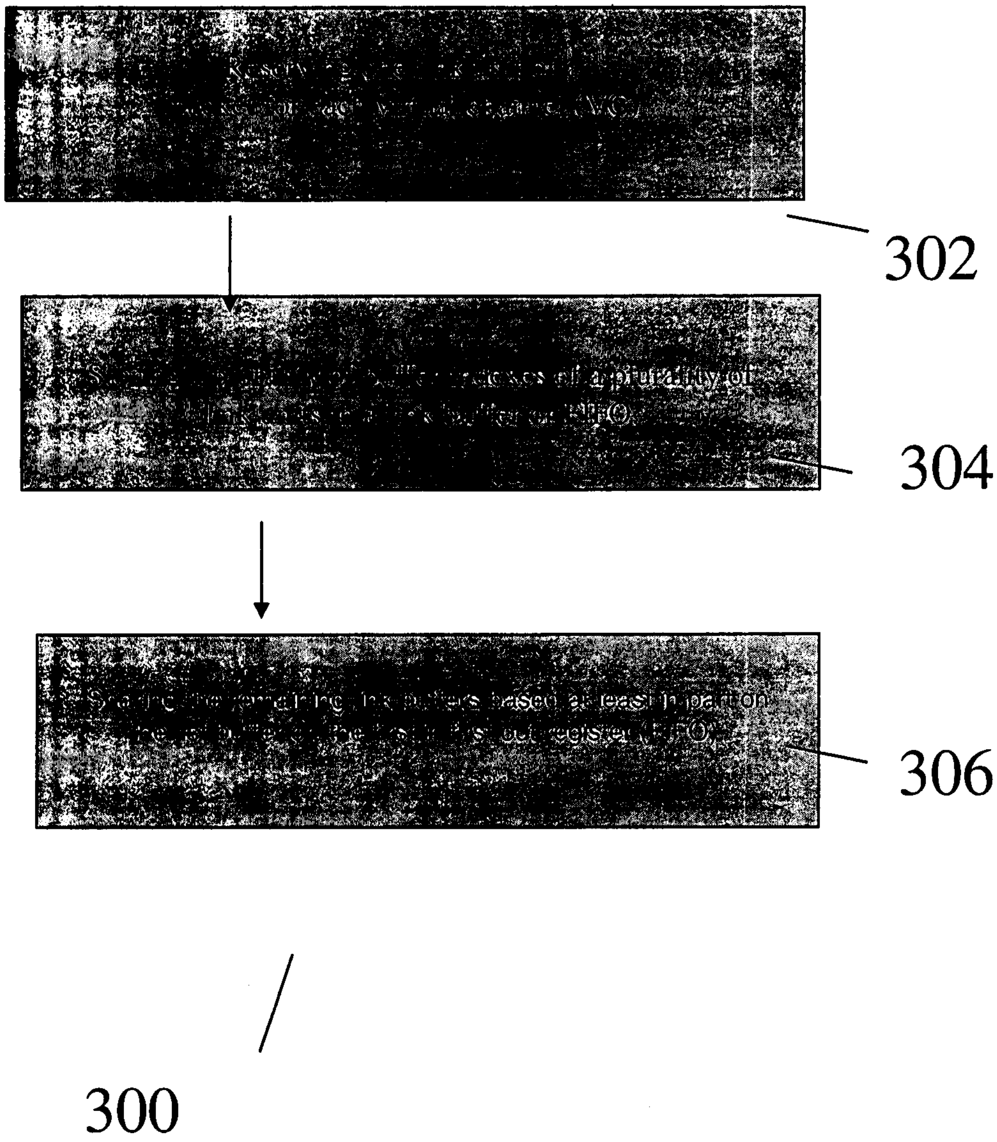

Reserving [illegible] link [illegible] for each virtual channel (VC)
302
Storing [illegible] buffer indexes of a plurality of link [illegible] buffer or FIFO
304
Sharing the remaining link buffers based at least in part on the [illegible] buffer [illegible] the first in first out register (FIFO)
306
300

Figure 3

<table>
<tr><th colspan="5">Traditional Credit Passing Encoding</th></tr>
<tr><td>Bit 4</td><td>Bit 3</td><td>Bit 2</td><td>Bit 1</td><td>Bit 0</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="3">Virtual Channel</td><td colspan="2">Credits</td></tr>
</table>

<table>
<tr><th colspan="2">New Credit Passing Encoding</th></tr>
<tr><td>Bit 1</td><td>Bit 0</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">Credits</td></tr>
</table>

→ FIGURE 4

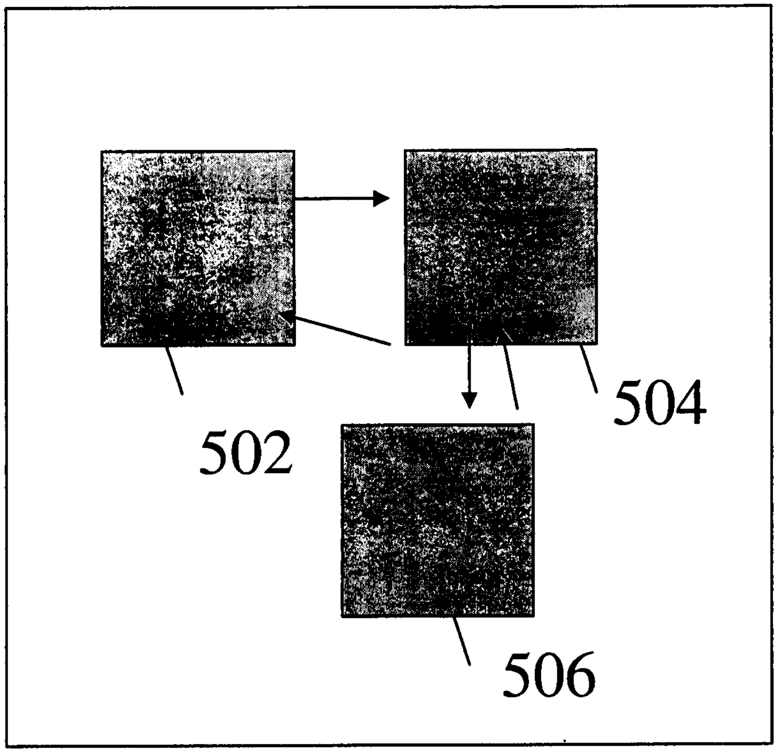


FIGURE 5